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Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development
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Agenda item 2
Review of the inputs to the substantive preparatory process and the International Conference on Financing for Development

Technical notes

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

Technical note No. 6:* Existing proposals to increase market access to exports of developing countries

I. Introduction

1. Given the exceptionally wide interest regarding market access emanating from intergovernmental as well as non-governmental organizations or gatherings, the list of proposals presented in the present note does not pretend to be exhaustive, in particular as regards proposals made by regional groups and numerous non-governmental organizations, and is limited to the most recent proposals or declarations.

2. Developing countries' concerns within the World Trade Organization can be summarized in three main linked areas: **implementation** of the current World Trade Organization Agreements;[1] **market access** for agricultural and industrial products, and for services; and the development or refinement of **World Trade Organization rules** for goods and services. Although these can with difficulty be separated, the proposals mentioned in this note refer only to "classic" access issues for goods and services. Thus, access-related issues raised in the context of the implementation of the existing World Trade Organization disciplines other than the tariff and non-tariff commitments agreed upon during the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations (such as, for instance, the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, and the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade) are not included. However, in some of the proposals quoted here, other areas or issues may appear insofar as they are essential to the understanding of the proposal.[2]

* The preparation of the present technical note was coordinated by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Staff from the following entities collaborated, in a personal capacity, in its preparation: the World Trade Organization, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

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II. Negotiating proposals submitted to the World Trade Organization

3. Given the large number of negotiating proposals submitted by World Trade Organization member countries or groups of countries in the framework of the mandated negotiations on agriculture and services, this technical note limits itself to a summary of the state of play in these two areas. However, the detailed lists of these proposals are presented in annexes I and II which indicate the relevant World Trade Organization document.

A. Agriculture

4. The negotiations on agriculture under the Built-In Agenda have gone furthest in receiving negotiating proposals. A large number of proposals have been made to the Special Sessions (the Negotiating Group) of the Committee on Agriculture (see annex I). Individual proposals can be accessed through the World Trade Organization "Documents Online".

5. Developing countries have been very active participants in the agricultural negotiations. Market access figures strongly among their concerns, with focus on three main aspects: substantial tariff cuts, reduction or elimination of tariff peaks and escalation, and improvements in the administration of tariff quotas. However, these are not the only concerns of developing countries. While many, particularly the 15 developing countries that are members of the "Cairns" Group, see market access and the substantial reduction of trade barriers in developing countries, as well as the elimination of export and domestic subsidies, as key to the negotiations, developing countries' interests are diverse. Some emphasize the need for World Trade Organization rules on agriculture to be more flexible so that developing countries can better support and protect their agricultural and rural development; this is often linked with "food security" concerns. Some smaller developing countries have emphasized the need to retain preferences for their access to developed markets, either on a transitional or a longer-term basis.

6. Groups of countries have worked closely together to present proposals reflecting their interests. For example, a group of 11 developing countries has argued for the creation of a "Development Box" in the Agreement on Agriculture to provide for greater policy flexibility for developing countries, and a related group of 12 developing countries has made a proposal concerning market access. A group of 27 members (including developing and developed countries) has put forward a paper on non-trade concerns, while the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR) and various other developing countries have made proposals on the reduction of export subsidies, on export credits and on State trading enterprises. Net food-importing countries, which are concerned about possible rises in world food prices as a result of reductions in export subsidies, indicate the need to address their concerns more effectively. The World Trade Organization African Group in March 2001 presented a comprehensive proposal covering market access (including reduction of tariff peaks, tariff escalation, duty- and quota-free access for least developed countries, preferences, and other aspects), export competition, domestic support, special concerns of least developed countries and net food-importing developing countries, and policy coherence. Other group proposals have come from small island developing States, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and transition economies.

B. Services

7. Negotiating proposals have been made by the following developing countries and groups: the Andean Community (horizontal issues), Brazil (audio-visual services), Chile (professional, telecommunications, construction, distribution, energy, maritime, air transport and horizontal issues), Colombia (professional services, financial services and movement of natural persons), India (movement of natural persons); Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China (postal and courier communications, maritime transport and logistics); the Republic of Korea (telecommunications, construction, distribution, financial services and maritime transport), MERCOSUR (computer services and distribution), Mexico (telecommunications), Venezuela (energy services), and a group of developing countries led by the Dominican Republic (tourism). A complete list of negotiating proposals made up until July 2001 is contained in annex II.

8. It should be noted that negotiating proposals made by developing countries and others in the services context take place against the background of

agreed procedures and guidelines for the services negotiations, concluded in March 2001 (World Trade Organization document S/L/93, available on the World Trade Organization web site). Developing countries participated successfully in defining these procedures and guidelines, which refer at virtually every stage to developing countries' interests.

C. Market access for least developed countries[3]

9. Recent developments show significant and concrete improvements in market access opportunities for least developed countries. However, there is still scope for further improvements.

10. Since the World Trade Organization Singapore Ministerial Conference in 1996, many World Trade Organization members have taken or proposed measures to provide duty- and quota-free access to all or essentially all products exported by least developed countries:

- At the high-level meeting held on 27 and 28 October 1997, 20 entities representing 35 members announced new or additional preferential market access measures for least developed countries that they had taken, or proposed to take. Others made important statements drawing attention to existing liberal market access for least developed countries under Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) or Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP) regimes and other preferential arrangements;[4]
- Twenty-eight Members announced measures that they had taken or proposed to take to improve market access opportunities for least developed countries at the General Council meeting held on 3 and 8 May 2000.[5] Annex III summarizes the status of preferential access for least developed countries exports, based on notifications or announcements made by those 28 members.[6]

III. Proposals agreed or submitted in other intergovernmental organizations or meetings

11. The proposals are presented directly below.

1. *Originator of the proposal*: Group of 77: Marrakesh Declaration, September 1999 (ninth ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 and China) (A/54/392, annex)

Body to which the proposal was made: Third World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference (November 1999) and tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) (February 2000)

Summary of the proposal: "We believe that negotiations provided for under the 'Built-in Agenda' should be launched without delay responding to the priorities of developing countries:

"• In agriculture, the objective should be to incorporate the sector within normal World Trade Organization rules, addressing the particular problems of predominantly agrarian and small island developing economies and net food-importing developing countries;

"• Negotiations on trade in services should be carried out within the existing architecture of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and aim at the liberalization of sectors of special interest to developing countries and the movement of natural persons, while taking account of the impact of electronic commerce;

"• The mandated reviews under the World Trade Organization multilateral trade agreements (MTAs) ought to redress imbalances and to ensure that provisions in favour of developing countries are effectively implemented" (para. 15).

"We call upon developed countries to demonstrate a firm and unequivocal commitment to opening their markets to the exports of developing countries, and to provide duty-free and quota-free access for the exports of the least developed countries. This should not affect World Trade Organization members' existing commitments relating to preferential schemes.

Any future negotiations should address the elimination of tariff peaks and tariff escalation and should introduce further disciplines to prevent the abuse of measures such as anti-dumping, countervailing duties and safeguard actions, sanitary and phytosanitary regulations and technical barriers to trade, as well as to prevent the apparent revival of the use of voluntary export restraints. The work programme on the harmonization of non-preferential rules of origin should be achieved rapidly, to attain simplified, harmonized and more transparent rules" (para. 16).

"We are convinced of the need for differential and more favourable treatment of developing countries. This includes assistance to developing countries to assist them in overcoming transitional costs and to allow time for achieving development goals and enhancing competitiveness. The concept of special and differential treatment should be reviewed and strengthened to take account of the changing realities of world trade and of globalized production, and must be accompanied by capacity-building, enhanced market access and measures taken by industrialized countries to encourage their enterprises and institutions to transfer technology and know-how and invest in developing countries" (para. 19).

2. *Originator of the proposal*: UNCTAD at its tenth session, Bangkok Plan of Action (TD/390; part II)

Body to which the proposal was made: UNCTAD at its tenth session (adopted in Bangkok, February 2000)

Summary of the proposal: "... many developing countries face problems when trying to diversify into higher value added and manufactured exports with more dynamic demand prospects. Barriers to entry in those sectors where they should have the best chance of exporting need to be addressed, such as textiles, clothing, and the food industry" (para. 57).

"Market access conditions for agricultural and industrial products of export interest to least developed countries should be improved on as broad and liberal a basis as possible and urgent consideration should be given to the proposal for a possible commitment by developed countries to grant duty-free and quota-free market access for essentially all exports originating in least developed countries and other proposals to maximize market access for least developed countries. Consideration should also be given to proposals for developing countries to contribute to improved market access for least developed countries' exports. All countries that announced market access commitments at the High-level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development in October 1997 are invited to implement these commitments fully and expeditiously" (para. 58).

3. *Originator of the proposal*: Intergovernmental Group of Twenty-Four on International Monetary Affairs (G-24) (23 September 2000)

Body to which the proposal was presented and date: Development Committee, Prague, September 2000

Summary of the proposal: "Ministers express concern that protectionist measures employed by industrialized countries vis-à-vis developing countries impede global employment growth and poverty reduction opportunities ... Furthermore, tariff and non-tariff trade barriers are especially significant in areas in which developing countries have a comparative advantage, including labour-intensive activities such as textiles and services, as well as agricultural products ... Ministers also call for rapid trade liberalization and elimination of distorting domestic subsidies by developed countries, in particular to promote growth and strengthen poverty reduction efforts in developing countries" (para. 5).

4. *Originator of the proposal*: Report of the Secretary-General to the Preparatory Committee for the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development at its second substantive session in February 2001 (A/AC.257/12 of 18 December 2000)

Body to which the proposal was presented and date: Preparatory Committee, February 2001

Summary of the proposal: "All trading partners should liberalize trade in goods and services of

particular interest to developing economies, seeking to achieve bound, expanded and commercially meaningful market access for such goods and services. Particular attention should be given, in the first instance, to the full integration of textiles and clothing into the World Trade Organization; the reduction of barriers of trade in agricultural products; the removal of tariff peaks and escalation affecting the export products of developing countries; and the expansion, where appropriate, of GSP schemes" (boxed boldface text between paras. 70 and 71).

"All developed countries should immediately provide duty-free, quota-free market access to all non-arms exports of least developed countries and highly indebted poor countries (HIPC) and consider doing the same for other developing countries, particularly the countries of Africa, small island developing States, landlocked and transit developing countries, and other developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition with special difficulties in attracting financing for development" (boxed boldface text between paras. 71 and 72).

"World Trade Organization members should also not use contingency measures and restrictive rules of origin, and should ensure that standards, technical regulations and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS) measures are not used to obstruct trade, that they can be adequately observed by developing countries, and that appropriate assistance is provided to enable them to do so" (boxed boldface text between paras. 73 and 74).

5. *Originator of the proposal*: Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries: Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (Brussels, May 2001) (A/CONF.191/11)

Body to which the proposal was made: Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (adopted at the Conference)

Summary of the proposal: "Improving preferential market access for least developed countries by working towards the objective of duty-free and quota-free market access for all least developed countries' products. This will apply in the markets of developed countries. Improvements in market access for least developed countries should be granted on a secure and predictable basis. They should be combined with simplified rules of origin that provide transparency and predictability so as to help ensure that least developed countries benefit from the market access granted, and multi-donor programmes, such as the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance (IF), to upgrade least developed countries production and export capacities and capabilities. Consideration should also be given to proposals for developing countries to contribute to improved market access for least developed countries' exports" (para. 68 (h)).

6. *Originator of the proposal*: Group of Fifteen (G-15): Summit-level Group of Developing Countries, Eleventh Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Group of Fifteen, Jakarta, Indonesia, 25-31 May 2001 (joint communiqué)

Body to which the proposal was made: Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Group of Fifteen (adopted at the Summit)

Summary of the proposal: "We reaffirm that a rules-based, open, just, equitable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system is a prerequisite of a sound and balanced international economy and the credibility of the multilateral trading system. ... We have sustained our efforts to open our markets, strengthen our institutions and orient our economies to the challenges of the new global economy. We note, however, that the high tariffs peaks, tariff escalations and non-tariff barriers, including new restrictions under the pretext of sanitary and phytosanitary measures, persisting in industrialized countries on products of export interest to developing countries, have adversely impacted on the export performance of these products and industrialization growth in developing countries" (para. 17).

"We are against the use of subsidies, anti-dumping and safeguards provisions as protectionist and trade distorting measures by developed countries ... We urge the developed countries to demonstrate their true commitment to free trade by promoting substantial liberalization in agriculture and textiles and in other sectors and

modes of supply of services of export interest to developing countries, in particular the movement of natural persons, as envisaged in the General Agreement on Trade in Services. Real progress in mandated negotiations and review is essential to the future of a fair and free trading system. We also stress the importance of commodities exports for the development of developing countries" (para. 18).

"We strongly stress the need for a meaningful solution to the Implementation Issues pertaining to the Uruguay Round Agreements and Decisions by the Fourth Ministerial Conference in Doha, Qatar, in accordance with the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization, and for the operationalization of the special and differential provisions in favour of developing countries as a binding commitment" (para. 19).

"We further express our concern on the deterioration of preferential schemes, especially the imposition of additional conditionalities on developing countries under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). Accordingly, we call for the exclusion of conditionalities, particularly labour, health, safety and environmental standards, in the implementation of GSP schemes. ... A dynamic multilateral trading system should be responsive to the needs of developing countries, particularly including small and vulnerable economies as well as least developed countries. We call for the creation of a favourable international environment to facilitate their beneficial integration into the global trading system. In this regard, we take note of the recent initiative to grant improved market access to products originating from least developed countries. We note further that measures should be taken to avoid possible negative impact from these initiatives on other developing countries" (paras. 23 and 24).

7. *Originator of the proposal*: Report of the High-level Panel on Financing for Development (executive summary) (26 June 2001) (A/55/1000)

Body to which the proposal was presented and date: Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development, June 2001

Summary of the proposal:

"• *Liberalization in agriculture*: In this field, it is vital for developing countries to discuss and get from industrialized countries a significant improvement in market access, an elimination of export subsidies, and a tightening of support to domestic producers;

"• *The total elimination of remaining trade barriers in manufacturing*. Existing barriers in this sector are mostly at the expense of developing countries. An obvious, but sadly not unique, example of this injustice is protection on textiles and clothing. Some Panel members consider that welfare gains for all parties would be even greater if the new round also liberalized trade in services."

8. *Originator of the proposal*: Zanzibar Declaration: Meeting of the Ministers Responsible for Trade of the Least Developed Countries, Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, 24 July 2001

Body to which the proposal was presented: Fourth World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference, Doha, November 2001

Summary of the proposal: The Ministers "call upon the Fourth World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference to agree on:

"• Binding commitment on duty-free and quota-free market access for all products from least developed countries on a secure long-term and predictable basis with realistic and flexible Rules of Origin to match the industrial capacity of the least developed countries;

"• Full implementation of the commitments made in the Marrakesh Declaration and the Ministerial Decision on Measures in Favour of least developed countries and the Ministerial Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries;

"• Binding and full implementation of the provisions of Special and Differential treatment, including adoption of new Special and Differential measures to take into account

problems encountered by least developed countries in implementation" (para. 4).

9. *Originator (or origin) of the proposal*: G-8 Summit 2001 (Genoa) (final official notice)

Body to which the proposals was presented and date: Global community, July 2001

Summary of the proposal: "While opening markets through global negotiations provides the greatest economic benefit for developing countries, we fully endorse measures already taken to improve market access for the least developed countries, such as Everything But Arms, the Generalized System of Preferences and all other initiatives that address the same objectives. We confirm our pledge made at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to work towards duty-free and quota-free access for all products originating in the least developed countries. We support efforts made by least developed countries to enter the global trading system and to take advantage of opportunities for trade-based growth" (para. 11).

"Increased market access must be coupled with the capacity to take advantage of it. Thus, to help developing countries benefit from open markets, we will better coordinate our trade-related assistance to:

- Provide bilateral assistance on technical standards, customs systems, legislation needed for World Trade Organization membership, the protection of intellectual property rights, and human resource development;
- Support the work of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance;
- Encourage the international financial institutions to help remove obstacles to trade and investment, and establish the institutions and policies essential for trade to flourish;
- Urge countries to mainstream trade expansion by including it in their poverty reduction strategies" (para. 12).

10. *Originator (or origin) of the proposal*: G-7 Summit 2001 (Genoa)

Body to which the proposals was presented and date: Global community, July 2001

Summary of the proposal: "Sustained economic growth worldwide requires a renewed commitment to free trade. Opening markets globally and strengthening the World Trade Organization as the bedrock of the multilateral trading system is therefore an economic imperative. It is for this reason that we pledge today to engage personally and jointly in the launch of a new ambitious Round of global trade negotiations at the Fourth World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference in Doha, Qatar, this November" (para. 6).

"We are committed to working with developing countries, including the least developed, to ensure that the new Round addresses their priorities through improved market access and sounder, more transparent trade rules. We recognize that there are legitimate concerns in implementing the Uruguay Round Agreements. We welcome the steady progress made so far on implementation issues and are ready to examine ways to make further progress in connection with the launch of a new Round. Capacity-building is essential to integrate developing countries into the trading system, and we are intensifying our efforts to assist in this area, inter alia, with international institutions" (para. 7).

"In the interests of all, the new Round should be based on a balanced agenda, while clarifying, strengthening and extending multilateral rules. An improved dispute settlement mechanism is central to this effort. Increased transparency in the World Trade Organization itself is also important to strengthen confidence in the global trading system. The World Trade Organization should continue to respond to the legitimate expectations of civil society, and ensure that the new Round supports sustainable development" (para. 8).

11. *Originator (or origin) of the proposal*: International Monetary and Financial Committee of the Board of Governors (IMFC) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (communiqué of 16 April 2000)

Body to which the proposal was presented and date: Global community, April 2000

Summary of the proposal: "The Committee reiterates the critical importance of open and competitive markets as a key component of efforts to sustain growth and stability in the global economy and to reduce poverty. Improving access to industrialized country markets for products of developing countries will be crucial to support their reform efforts. The Committee welcomes the initiation of World Trade Organization negotiations in agriculture and services, and supports the early launch of a new round of multilateral trade negotiations, which would bring benefits to all countries, including the poorest" (para. 6).

12. *Originator (or origin) of the proposal*: International Monetary and Financial Committee of the Board of Governors (IMFC) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (communiqué of 24 September 2000)

Body to which the proposal was presented and date: Global community, September 2000

Summary of the proposal: "The Committee also considers that international trade is critical for development and poverty reduction. To help ensure that the fruits of globalization are shared by all, it will be crucial that access of developing countries, particularly the poorest, to industrialized country markets continues to improve" (para. 12).

13. *Originator (or origin) of the proposal*: International Monetary and Financial Committee of the Board of Governors (IMFC) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (communiqué of 29 April 2001)

Body to which the proposal was presented and date: Global community, April 2001

Summary of the proposal: "The Committee underscores more broadly the importance of open markets for strengthening the global economy and for enhancing the growth prospects of developing countries. It urges all countries — developed and developing — to find common ground for the launch of new multilateral trade negotiations this year. The Committee is unanimous in its view that recourse to protectionism would be the wrong response to the global economic slowdown and the attendant difficulties in particular sectors. The Committee calls upon all countries to resist protectionist pressures and to reduce or eliminate trade barriers and trade-distorting subsidies" (para. 7).

14. *Originator (or origin) of the proposal*: Joint communiqué: IMFC and Development Committee (29 April 2001)

Body to which the proposal was presented and date: adopted in April 2001

Summary of the proposal: "We strongly reaffirm the importance of greater access for developing countries to world markets, and particularly call upon countries to open their markets further to the exports of the poorest countries. In this context, we welcome the recent initiatives taken by a number of countries. Furthermore, the industrialized countries have a major role to play by following policies that ensure sustainable, non-inflationary growth for the world economy. Such concerted actions by both rich and poor countries are needed to achieve the International Development Goals" (para. 9).

Notes

[1] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[2] A recent description of the background and the overall state of play as regards market access and Uruguay Round commitments can be found in World Trade Organization, *Market Access: Unfinished Business* (Geneva, 2001).

[3] The present section draws on document WT/LDC/SWG/IF/14/Rev.1 of 20 April 2001, which was an input by the World Trade Organization to the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

[4] See WT/COMTD/12 and WT/LDC/HL/M/1. Members that elaborated on existing measures or proposed new measures for market access in favour of least developed countries at the high-level meeting were: Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Egypt, European Communities, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Morocco, Norway, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and United States of America.

[5] See WT/GC/M/55. Argentina (on behalf of MERCOSUR), Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, European Communities, Hungary, Iceland, Japan, Norway, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland and United States of America reported that they had taken, or intended to take, additional measures to further improve access of least developed countries to their markets. Hong Kong SAR of China confirmed its duty-free treatment on a most-favoured-nation (MFN) basis to imports from all sources.

[6] World Trade Organization notifications of preferences as listed in annex III have been accorded by developed countries under the 1979 Enabling Clause (L/4903) and by developing countries either under the Enabling Clause or the 1999 Waiver on Preferential Tariff Treatment for least developed countries (WT/L/304).

Annex I

Committee on Agriculture: Special Session Negotiating Proposals and Other Submissions

(Issued to date: 20 July 2001)

G/AG/NG/W/11	Proposal by Cairns Group — Export Competition — 16 June 2000
G/AG/NG/W/12	Proposal by Canada — Market Access — 19 June 2000
G/AG/NG/W/13	Proposal by Cuba, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Pakistan, Haiti, Nicaragua, Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Sri Lanka and El Salvador — Special and Differential Treatment and a Development Box — 23 June 2000
G/AG/NG/W/14	Proposal by Cuba, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Pakistan, Haiti, Nicaragua, Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Sri Lanka and El Salvador — Green Box/Annex 2 Subsidies — 23 June 2000
G/AG/NG/W/15 (Derestricted 30 June 2000)	Proposal by United States of America — Comprehensive Long-Term Agricultural Trade Reform — 23 June 2000
G/AG/NG/W/16 (Derestricted 30 June 2000)	Submission by United States of America — Note on Domestic Support Reform — 23 June 2000
G/AG/NG/W/17	Proposal by European Communities — The Blue Box and Other Support Measures to Agriculture — 28 June 2000
G/AG/NG/W/18	Proposal by European Communities — Food Quality: Improvement of Market Access Opportunities — 28 June 2000
G/AG/NG/W/19	Proposal by European Communities — Animal Welfare and Trade in Agriculture — 28 June 2000
G/AG/NG/W/34	Proposal by European Communities — Export Competition — 18 September 2000
G/AG/NG/W/35	Proposal by Cairns Group — Domestic Support — 22 September 2000
G/AG/NG/W/36/Rev.1	Submission by Barbados, Burundi, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Dominica, Estonia, European Communities, Fiji, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, and Trinidad and Tobago on Non-Trade Concerns — Revision — 9 November 2000

G/AG/NG/W/37 and Corr.1	Proposal on Market Access by Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Zimbabwe — 28 September 2000
G/AG/NG/W/38	Discussion paper by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay (MERCOSUR), Chile, Bolivia and Costa Rica on Export Subsidies — Food Security or Food Dependency? — 27 September 2000
G/AG/NG/W/54	Proposal by Cairns Group — Market Access — 10 November 2000
G/AG/NG/W/55	Submission by Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) — Special and Differential Treatment for Developing Countries in World Agricultural Trade — 10 November 2000
G/AG/NG/W/56	Proposal by Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, Slovakia and Slovenia on Domestic Support — Additional Flexibility for Transition Economies — 14 November 2000
G/AG/NG/W/57	Proposal by Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia and Lithuania on Market Access — 14 November 2000
G/AG/NG/W/58	Proposal for Tariff Rate Quota Reform — Submission from United States of America — 14 November 2000
G/AG/NG/W/88	Technical Submission by Argentina on Legitimate Non-Trade Concerns — 30 November 2000
G/AG/NG/W/90	European Communities — Comprehensive Negotiating Proposal — 14 December 2000
G/AG/NG/W/91	Japan — Negotiating Proposal on World Trade Organization Agricultural Negotiations — 21 December 2000
G/AG/NG/W/92	Canada — Proposal — Domestic Support — 21 December 2000
G/AG/NG/W/93	Cairns Group — Proposal — Export Restrictions and Taxes — 21 December 2000
G/AG/NG/W/94	Switzerland — Proposal — 21 December 2000
G/AG/NG/W/95	Swaziland — Market Access under Special and Differential Treatment for Small Developing Countries — Proposal by Swaziland — 22 December 2000
G/AG/NG/W/96	Mauritius — Negotiating Proposal — 28 December 2000
G/AG/NG/W/97 and Corr.1	Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Jamaica, Mauritius, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago — Proposals by Small Island Developing States — 29 December 2000

G/AG/NG/W/98	Republic of Korea — Negotiating Proposal — 9 January 2001
G/AG/NG/W/99	Mali — Proposals for the Future Negotiations on Agriculture — 11 January 2001
G/AG/NG/W/100	Caribbean Community (CARICOM) — Negotiating Proposal — Market Access — 15 January 2001
G/AG/NG/W/101	Norway — Proposal — 16 January 2001
G/AG/NG/W/102	India — Proposals — 15 January 2001
G/AG/NG/W/103	Poland — Proposal — 19 January 2001
G/AG/NG/W/104 and Corr.1	Proposal by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay (MERCOSUR), Bolivia, Chile and Colombia — State Trading Enterprises — 23 January 2001
G/AG/NG/W/105	Morocco — Proposal — 2 February 2001
G/AG/NG/W/106 and Corr.1	Turkey — Proposal — 5 February 2001
G/AG/NG/W/107/Rev.1	Egypt — Proposal — Revision — 21 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/130	Nigeria — Proposal — 14 February 2001
G/AG/NG/W/135	Democratic Republic of the Congo — Proposal — 12 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/136	Kenya — Proposal — 12 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/137	Senegal — Proposal — 16 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/138	Mexico — Proposal — 19 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/139	MERCOSUR, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, India and Malaysia — Proposal on Export Credits for Agricultural Products — 20 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/140	Jordan — Proposal — 21 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/141	Submission by Croatia — 23 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/142	World Trade Organization African Group — Joint Proposal on the Negotiations on Agriculture — 23 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/143	Namibia — Proposal — 23 March 2001
G/AG/NG/W/185	Burkina Faso — Proposal — 16 May 2001
G/AG/NG/W/186	Mauritius — Communication — 20 July 2001

Annex II

Council for Trade in Services: Special Session

Sectoral/Modal/Horizontal Negotiating Proposals (S/CSS/W__, as at 12 July 2001)

Proposals	*Dominican Republic and others*	*India*	*United States of America*	*European Communities*	*Japan*	*Canada*	*Norway*	*Australia*	*Hong Kong SAR of China*	*Venezuela*
Business services							W/59			
Business (non-professional)				W/34	W/42	W/55				
Advertising			W/100							
Professional				W/33	W/42	W/52				
Legal			W/28					W/67 and S.1		
Accounting			W/20					W/62		
Architectural								W/63		
Engineering								W/65		
Computer				W/34	W/42	W/56				
Communication										
Postal/Courier			W/26	W/61					W/68	
Telecom			W/30	W/35	W/42	W/53	W/59	W/17		
Audio-visual			W/21		W/42					
Construction				W/36	W/42			W/64		
Distribution			W/22	W/37	W/42	W/57				
Education			W/23							
Energy			W/24	W/60		W/58	W/59			W/69
Environmental			W/25	W/38		W/51				
Financial			W/27	W/39	W/42	W/50	W/59	W/66		
Tourism	S/C/W/127 and Corr.1; S/CSS/W/19		W/31	W/40	W/42	W/54/R.1				
Transport				W/41						
Maritime					W/42		W/59		W/68	

Proposals	*Dominican Republic and others*	*India*	*United States of America*	*European Communities*	*Japan*	*Canada*	*Norway*	*Australia*	*Hong Kong SAR of China*	*Venezuela*
Air							W/59			
Land (rail and road)					W/42					
Other transport										
Logistics									W/68	
Mode 4		W/12 and Corr.1	W/29	W/45	W/42/S.2	W/48 (W/46 and Corr.1) W/47;				
Horizontal issues		W/102		(W/32)	W/42/S.1	W/49				

Note: Proposals in parentheses ( ) address general objectives for the negotiations.

Proposals	*Switzerland*	*MERCOSUR*	*Republic of Korea*	*Chile*	*Andean Community*	*New Zealand*	*Colombia*	*Brazil*	*Mexico*
Business services									
Business (non-professional)									
Professional	W/75			W/88			W/98		
Legal									
Accounting									
Architectural									
Engineering									
Computer		W/95							
Communication									
Postal/Courier	W/73								
Telecom	W/72		W/83	W/88					W/101
Audio-visual	W/74							W/99	
Construction			W/84	W/88		W/91			
Distribution	W/77	W/80	W/85	W/88					
Education						W/93			

Proposals	*Switzerland*	*MERCOSUR*	*Republic of Korea*	*Chile*	*Andean Community*	*New Zealand*	*Colombia*	*Brazil*	*Mexico*
Energy				W/88					
Environmental	W/76								
Financial	W/71		W/86 and Corr.1				W/96		
Tourism	W/79								
Recreational									
Sporting						W/94			
Transport									
Maritime			W/87	W/88					
Air				W/88		W/92			
Land (rail and road)									
Other transport	W/78								
Logistics									
Mode 4							W/97		
Horizontal issues	(W/70)			(W/82)	W/89	(W/90)			

Note: Proposals in parentheses ( ) address general objectives for the negotiations.

Annex III

Summary of existing or proposed market access measures for least developed countries

Member	*Market access for least developed countries*	*World Trade Organization document reference (notifications in bold)*
Argentina	In May 2000, Argentina (on behalf of the Southern Core Common Market (MERCOSUR)) announced that it provided tariff preferences for least developed countries under the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP) scheme, and following completion of the ratification process for the offers made in the context of the second round of GSTP negotiations, the countries concerned would be in a position to enhance their preferences.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000)
Australia	Reported liberal existing market access conditions under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) scheme. In 1997, 98 per cent of least developed country exports entered duty-free. Additional duty-free entry granted to Pacific Islands Forum island countries under the South Pacific regional trade and economic cooperation agreement (SPARTECA Agreement).	WT/GC/M/55 (2000)
	In May 2000, provided duty- and quota-free access on 93.2 per cent of least developed country exports to its market. In terms of tariff rates, nearly 84 per cent of tariff lines were duty-free for least developed countries and included preferential rates of duty in products of interest, including agriculture, fish, textiles and clothing.	WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Bulgaria	Continued to grant duty- and quota-free access to its market for a wide range of products from least developed countries. In 1997, all least developed country exports entered duty-free.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000) WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Canada	At the high-level meeting, Canada announced changes to its Generalized Preferential Treatment (GPT). Preferential rates of duty were lowered on over 3,000 products from developing countries and coverage was broadened to include an additional 200 tariff lines. Over 80 per cent of its product lines were GPT-eligible and these products from least developed countries entered Canada duty-free. Moreover, Canada accelerated most of the Uruguay Round tariff reductions scheduled for implementation on 1 January 1999 to 1 January 1998. From 1 January 1998, Canada moved beyond its commitments in the	**WT/COMTD/N/15** (2000) WT/GC/M/55 (2000) WT/COMTD/LDC/M/11 (1998) WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)

Member	*Market access for least developed countries*	*World Trade Organization document reference (notifications in bold)*
	Agreement on Textiles and Clothing to integrate textile products and remove quotas on a number of specific products, as notified to the World Trade Organization Textiles Monitoring Body. Canada notified further improvements to the GSP for least developed countries effective 1 September 2000, with an additional 570 tariff lines (Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) eight-digit level) added to the list of duty-free items. Duty-free access to least developed country exports now cover approximately 90 per cent of tariff lines. Canada has also liberalized rules of origin requirements that apply to least developed country imports with effect from 23 August 2000 by permitting cumulation from least developed countries. Canada and up to half of the required minimum 40 per cent content sourcing from developing countries.	
Chile	In May 2000, the Government was in the process of evaluating preferential treatment for products originating in least developed countries within its legal requirements. It also announced its intention to consider or finalize initiatives of market access for least developed countries at the high-level meeting in 1997.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000) WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Czech Republic	In May 2000, imports originating in least developed countries through its national GSP scheme enjoyed duty-free treatment.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000)
Egypt	Following the high-level meeting, Egypt through the GSTP in 1998 notified tariff reductions at HS eight-digit level, ranging from 10 to 20 per cent of existing applied duties, for 77 products of export interest to least developed countries, and provided duty-free access for about 50 products imported into Egypt. In addition, Egypt bound customs duties, with a 10 per cent reduction for industrial products imported from least developed countries.	**WT/COMTD/W/47 and Add.1** WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
European Union (EU)	At the high-level meeting in 1997, the European Communities (EC) announced the extension of preferences under the Fourth African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States — European Communities (ACP-EC) Convention to non-ACP least developed countries, which was notified and effective from 1 January 1998.[a] Rules of origin requirements were also simplified allowing for derogations and promoting regional cumulation. Already in 2000,	WT/COMTD/M/30 WT/COMTD/LDC/M/12 WT/GC/M/55 (2000) **WT/COMTD/W/41** WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)

Member	*Market access for least developed countries*	*World Trade Organization document reference (notifications in bold)*
	about 99 per cent of least developed countries' exports by value entered the EU market duty-free. Already in 2000, about 99 per cent of least developed countries' exports by value entered the EU market duty-free. EU's Everything But Arms (EBA) initiative in favour of least developed countries became effective in March 2001. Duty-free and quota-free access is provided for all goods except arms. Bananas, sugar and rice are subject to transition periods before full free access is reached (2006 for bananas, 2009 for sugar and rice). In the interim, duty-free quotas are established based initially on the best figures for least developed country exports during the 1990s plus 15 per cent, and increasing by 15 per cent annually.	
Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China	Confirmed application of duty- and quota-free access on a most-favoured-nation (MFN) basis to imports from all sources including least developed countries.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000)
Hungary	All least developed country exports enter duty-free and quota-free under existing GSP. Customs Law-1996, through legal guarantees, strengthened predictability of the preferential market access to least developed countries. Liberal application of rules of origin requirements.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000) WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Iceland	In May 2000, Government proposed to implement both tariff-free and quota-free treatment for essentially all products originating in least developed countries. An appropriate notification would be submitted at the earliest convenience. This treatment would apply to products of export interest to least developed countries including textiles.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000)
India	Preferences granted under the South Asian Preferential Trade Arrangement (SAPTA) to least developed country contracting States. In 1997, India granted tariff concessions on 574 tariff lines exclusively for the least developed country members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), and had removed quantitative restrictions on 180 lines exclusively in favour of SAARC least developed countries. Further, under the existing GSTP, India provided preferential access to seven least developed countries, namely, Bangladesh, the United Republic of Tanzania, Benin, Guinea, Haiti, Mozambique and the Sudan. Under the	WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)

Member	*Market access for least developed countries*	*World Trade Organization document reference (notifications in bold)*
	Bangkok Agreement, Bangladesh was given preferential access, and Myanmar and Nepal had preferential access to India under bilateral agreements.	
Indonesia	Announced at the high-level meeting in 1997 its intention to consider initiatives to improve market access for least developed countries.	WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Japan	In 1997, under its GSP scheme, Japan applied zero tariffs to 80 per cent of the products that were of major export interest to the least developed countries. From 1 April 2001, a further 360 products (at HS nine-digit level) from least developed countries were made eligible for duty-free and quota-free treatment. About 99 per cent of industrial products, including textiles and clothing, are covered by the scheme. Japan would review further extension of coverage.	**WT/COMTD/29** **WT/LDC/SWG/IF/12** (2001) WT/GC/M/55 (2000) **WT/COMTD/N/2/ Add.1-9** WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Korea, Republic of	In January 2000, the Republic of Korea notified preferential duty-free access on 80 items (HS six-digit level) originating from and of major export interest to least developed countries, effective from 1 January 2000.[b] In May 2000, it indicated that it would consider further expanding its existing preferential tariff regime for least developed countries.	**WT/COMTD/N/12/ Rev.1** WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997) WT/GC/M/55 (2000)
Malaysia	Malaysia announced at the high-level meeting in 1997 the intention to consider initiatives to improve market access for least developed countries.	WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Mauritius	Notified effective September 1998, duty-free access for five tariff lines originating from least developed countries. The products comprise certain crustaceans; guavas, mangoes and mangosteens; axes and billhooks; handsaws; and files.	**WT/COMTD/W/53** WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Morocco	Morocco proposed at the high-level meeting in 1997 preferential access to African least developed countries.	WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
New Zealand	New Zealand, in November 2000, notified its decision to offer duty- and quota-free access to all imports from least developed countries effective from 1 July 2001. Prior to this, in 1999, 96.7 per cent of its tariff lines and 99.3 per cent of its imports from least developed countries had entered duty-free.	**WT/COMTD/27** **WT/GC/36** WT/GC/M/55 (2000)

Member	*Market access for least developed countries*	*World Trade Organization document reference (notifications in bold)*
Norway	At the high-level meeting, Norway announced that it had, on a MFN basis, accelerated its Uruguay Round tariff cuts on agricultural products by implementing them from 1 January 1995 instead of 1999. Similarly, it had phased out almost all restrictions on textiles and clothing by 1997-1998 instead of 2004. Following harmonization in the application of rules of origin with EC and Switzerland, from 1 March 1998, bilateral cumulation was permitted and the possibility of future diagonal cumulation of origin was being considered.	**WT/COMTD/N/6/ Add.1-2** WT/GC/M/55 (2000)
	Amendments and improvements to Norway's GSP scheme were notified in 2000-2001. It accords duty-free and quota-free access to all industrial and agricultural imports from least developed countries covered by the GSP programme, with the exception of flour, grains and feeding stuffs; these products are given a preferential margin of 30 per cent within indicative tariff ceilings. Rules of origin requirements have been revised and progressively simplified.	WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Poland	Since 1990, Poland has applied preferential treatment for products originating from least developed countries and, in May 2000, it announced that it was examining autonomous improvements to the existing preferential system with a view to providing duty-free and quota-free market access for essentially all products originating in least developed countries, in conformity with national legislation and international agreements.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000)
Singapore	Singapore notified, at the high-level meeting, duty-free treatment on 107 items (HS six-digit level) of export interest to least developed countries in addition to the almost duty-free regime accorded on a MFN basis.	**WT/LDC/HL/M/1, annex 1**
Slovakia	Slovakia provided duty- and quota-free access to all imports from least developed countries through its GSP. It confirmed, in May 2000, that this system would be maintained in the future.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000)

Member	*Market access for least developed countries*	*World Trade Organization document reference (notifications in bold)*
Slovenia	In May 2000, Slovenia announced that it was prepared to provide tariff- and quota-free access for essentially all products originating in least developed countries, independent of World Trade Organization membership, consistent with its domestic requirements and international agreements under its newly established preferential scheme. The Government had taken this general decision which would be confirmed through decrees issued.	WT/GC/M/55 (2000)
Switzerland	Switzerland undertook a revision of its preferential tariff schedule and, since its entry into force on 1 March 1997, least developed countries have been able to benefit from zero tariffs for all industrial and most agricultural products. Some 98 per cent of least developed country products have entered Switzerland duty-free under its notified preferential scheme and improvements thereof. Rules of origin for goods benefiting from preferential access were also simplified. Switzerland harmonized its regulations with those of EU and in the near future materials originating not only from Switzerland but also from EU and Norway will enjoy the right of cumulation treatment. Under the new rules of origin, regional economic groupings in developing countries also enjoy the right of cumulation treatment.	**WT/COMTD/N/7**[c] **WT/COMTD/W/34** WT/GC/M/55 (2000) WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Thailand	At the high-level meeting in 1997, Thailand announced tariff preferences on 74 product groups (at the HS six-digit level), through which some products would be exempted from import duty and others would be given a margin of preference of 20 per cent from the applied rates. This would be subject to an annual review process.	WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)
Turkey	Notified additional preferential tariff rates for imports from least developed countries, effective from 1 January 1998. These unilateral preferential rates apply to 556 products at the HS 12-digit level. All these products except coffee are given duty-free access.	**WT/COMTD/W/39 and Corr.1** WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)

Member	*Market access for least developed countries*	*World Trade Organization document reference (notifications in bold)*
United States of America	Under the existing GSP system, duty-free access is offered on nearly half the 9,000 products in the United States harmonized tariff schedule. Least developed country-specific improvements to the scheme were notified with the addition of 1,783 tariff lines to GSP treatment for least developed countries as from 30 May 1997, under the GSP Renewal Act of 1996. Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), adopted in May 2000, 34 sub-Saharan countries (including 23 least developed countries) were designated as beneficiaries in October 2000,[d] and can access new GSP benefits for 1,835 tariff lines as from December 2000.[e] AGOA is subject to eligibility criteria including continuous progress towards establishing a market-based economy, maintenance of the rule of law, the elimination of barriers to United States trade and investment, poverty alleviation economic policies, protection of internationally recognized worker rights and a system to combat corruption. Customs-related eligibility requirements also have to be met. The Act establishes a United States Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum (ATECF) to facilitate regular trade and investment policy discussions and to promote the use of technical assistance to strengthen economic reforms and development.	**WT/COMTD/N/1/Add.3** WT/GC/M/55 (2000) **WT/COMTD/N/1/Add.2** WT/LDC/HL/M/1 (1997)

[a] Request for a World Trade Organization Waiver for the New ACP-EC Partnership Agreement is currently under consideration (G/C/W/187/Add.3).

[b] The preferential scheme was notified and made under the provisions of the waiver adopted by World Trade Organization members in 1999 (WT/L/304).

[c] The coverage of the Swiss scheme, particularly in agriculture, was extended considerably to other developing countries.

[d] The 34 beneficiaries designated were: Benin, Botswana, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

[e] See WT/COMTD/N/1/Add.3 for product list.